

EAST AYRSHIRE COUNCIL

CUMNOCK AREA LOCAL COMMITTEE - 13 JUNE 2002

STRATHCLYDE POLICE SPOTLIGHT REPORT

Report by the Chief Inspector

1. PURPOSE OF REPORT

- 1.1 To advise the Local Committee of crime trends within their area.

2. BACKGROUND

- 2.1 Agreement was reached between the Council and the local Police Commanders to provide information on crime matters affecting local communities.

3. SPOTLIGHT - CRIMES OF VIOLENCE

- 3.1 The Safer Streets Spotlight ended on 31 March 2002. During the months of January, February and March, crimes of violence in the Cumnock Area were down 11.5%, from 78 to 69.
- 3.2 Overall in Cumnock and Doon Valley Area, such crimes were down 16.2%, from 123 to 103.
- 3.3 As stated in the March report this is against the trend in the Force area and is certainly assisted by the amount of pro-activity carried out by Officers in the area.

4. PRO-ACTIVITY - CUMNOCK AND DOON VALLEY AREA

- 4.1 During the first three months of the year, 1,122 persons were searched for offensive weapons/knives which resulted in 38 positive searches.
- 4.2 In the same period, 243 persons were searched for drugs which resulted in 21 charges of Possession with Intent to Supply and 37 charges of Possession of Drugs being submitted to the Procurator Fiscal.
- 4.3 764 visits to licensed premises were also carried out bringing the total of visits for the year throughout the Cumnock and Doon Valley area to 2,474.
- 4.4 Officers also dealt with 259 offences of which 153 were disorder related. This is a 6% reduction compared to the same period the previous year when there were 163 incidents of disorder.
- 4.5 The detection rate remains static at 41%.

5. CRIME TRENDS

- 5.1 The crime statistics for the year ending 31 March 2002 are presently not available. A verbal update will be given at the meeting.

6. CRIME BRAKER INITIATIVE

- 6.1 This item is for the information of the Cumnock Area Local Committee Members.
- 6.2 On 28 March 2002, a third Safer Scotland Campaign was launched which will run through April and May. The primary focus of the campaign will be the links between criminal activity and the transport systems in Scotland.
- 6.3 The target groups will include persons who traffik/deal in drugs, criminals who cross Force boundaries and those who illegally import goods and substances into the area.
- 6.4 A specific focus will be on people who drive motor vehicles under the influence of illegal or prescribed drugs.
- 6.5 Officers within the Cumnock and Doon Valley area are actively involved in this campaign with particular attention being directed to random vehicle checks.

7. DIVISIONAL COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIP FUND

- 7.1 A Community Partnership Fund has been established by the Joint Police Board to support initiatives which tackles the Force's policing priorities.
- 7.2 "U" Division, which covers the three Ayrshire Local Authority areas, has been allocated £18,000 equally divided amongst those authorities. As such there is a total of £6,000 that can be applied for by communities within East Ayrshire.
- 7.3 Chief Superintendent Johnstone, Divisional Commander, 'U' Division, Kilmarnock, will letter all appropriate groups informing them of the fund and the application protocols. Community Police Officers will be involved and will highlight any groups not included and who they believe would benefit from the fund.

8. RECOMMENDATION

- 8.1 The Local Committee are asked to note the report.

Chief Inspector Hugh McKnight
Strathclyde Police

13 May 2002

HMCK/SR

Any person wishing further information on this report should contact Chief Inspector Hugh McKnight, Strathclyde Police Office, Ayr Road, Cumnock, on telephone number (01290) 420755.

AGENDA